



PUBLICATIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ON PUBLIC HEALTH

Edited by

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EUROPEAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY (EFSA)

European Food Safety Authority. **Scientific report on lumpy skin disease II. Data collection and analysis.** *EFSA Journal* 2018;16(2):5176 DOI:10.2903/j.efsa.2018.5176 The spatial and temporal patterns of lumpy skin disease (LSD) epidemics were analyzed based on the data collected from affected and at-risk countries in southeastern Europe in 2016 and 2017. The reported outbreaks decreased from 7483 in 2016 to 385 in 2017. Those were reported mainly in Albania in areas where vaccination was not completed. Only two and four outbreaks were reported in Greece and in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in 2017, respectively, where the herd immunity achieved by vaccination significantly reduced the further spread of the disease. However, this showed that the virus was still circulating and may re-emerge in not fully immunized animals. No further outbreaks were reported in the other countries that were affected in 2016, thus providing field evidence about the effectiveness of the regional vaccination campaign. The vaccination effectiveness in Albania, Bulgaria and Greece was estimated by survival analysis and Cox regression model to be 62%, 96% and 84%, respectively, and these results were validated by the mathematical model. This highlighted that the high coverage vaccination with the live homologous vaccine is the most effective measure for reducing lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV) spread. The housing type of animals was explored as risk factor in Greece, and the risk in farms with outdoor access was six times higher than in farms where animals are kept indoors, independently of vaccination status.

European Food Safety Authority, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. **The European Union summary report on antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic and indicator bacteria from humans, animals and food in 2016.** *EFSA Journal* 2018;16(2):5182 DOI:10.2903/j.efsa.2018.5182 The data on antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic and indicator bacteria in 2016, submitted by 28 EU Member States (MSs), were jointly analysed by the EFSA and ECDC. Resistance in bacterial isolates of zoonotic *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* from humans, animals and food, and resistance in indicator *Escherichia coli* as well as in methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* from animals and food were addressed. "Microbiological" resistance was assessed using epidemiological cut-off (ECOFF) values; for some countries, qualitative data on isolates from humans were interpreted in a

way that corresponds closely to ECOFF-defined "e" resistance.

European Food Safety Authority, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, European Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza, Adlhoch C, *et al.* **Scientific report: Avian influenza overview November 2017 – February 2018.** *EFSA Journal* 2018;16(3):4634 DOI:10.2903/j.efsa.2018.5240 Between 16 November 2017 and 15 February 2018, one highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) A(H5N6) and five HPAI A(H5N8) outbreaks in poultry holdings, two HPAI A(H5N6) outbreaks in captive birds and 22 HPAI A(H5N6) wild bird events were reported within Europe. There is a lower incursion of HPAI A(H5N6) in poultry compared to HPAI A(H5N8). There is no evidence to date that HPAI A(H5N6) viruses circulating in Europe are associated with clades infecting humans. HPAI A(H5N8) is still present in Europe and is widespread in neighbouring areas. The majority of mortality events of wild birds from HPAIV A(H5) in this three-month period involved single birds. The risk of zoonotic transmission to the general public in Europe is considered to be very low. The first human case due to avian influenza A(H7N4) was notified in China underlining the threat that newly emerging avian influenza viruses pose for transmission to humans. Close monitoring is required of the situation in Africa and the Middle East with regards to HPAI A(H5N1) and A(H5N8). Uncontrolled spread of virus and subsequent further genetic evolution in regions geographically connected to Europe may increase uncertainty and risk for further dissemination of virus. The risk of HPAI introduction from Third countries via migratory wild birds to Europe is still considered much lower for wild birds crossing the southern borders compared to birds crossing the north-eastern borders, whereas the introduction via trade is still very to extremely unlikely.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)

Towards zero hunger 1945-2030. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2017; 228 p. ISBN 978 92-510 9435 8 This book shows that, acting together, we can achieve "zero hunger" by 2030. It showcases a unique collection of images documenting how FAO has long been there – in the fields, in the mountains, on the oceans, in the heat and dust, in the cold and wet – helping people to survive, progress and prosper. Since 1945, FAO, the UN's first agency, has

played a leading role in combating hunger worldwide. FAO's photo archives contain more than a million images covering its seven decades of commitment. This book contains just a representative sample of shots to give readers an authentic picture of the Organization's activities from its pioneering early years through to today, with older images in black and white later giving way to colour. The photographs reflect FAO's various fields of activity (agriculture, fisheries, forestry, nutrition, etc.), and span the globe. Some photographs have served as historical records, documenting situations and FAO's projects. Others have been used for didactic purposes, also as part of films and slideshows, to explain innovative techniques and how to carry out practical operations in the field. In addition to the photographs and their captions, text describes FAO's work and significant moments in its history through the decades. Some photographers also share their experiences and insights. Thus, readers can see the captured detail in the context of an evolving whole.

Food and Agriculture: Driving action across the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Rome:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2017; 40 p. With a focus on FAO's support to countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), it describes the pivotal role sustainable food and agriculture and developing rural economies can play in reaching the 2030 Agenda goals and targets, notably those for ending poverty and hunger, promoting inclusive growth, responding to climate change, and nurturing the planet. The booklet places emphasis on the comprehensive vision of SDG2, End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture, highlighting its strong bond with SDG1, End poverty, and crucial interlinkages between food, livelihoods and management of natural resources.

The impact of disasters and crises on agriculture and food security 2017. Second edition. Rome:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2018; 168 p. ISBN 978 92 513 0359 7 Through this comprehensive 2017 report, FAO refreshes its 2015 conclusions and provides an update on the state of post-disaster agriculture in developing countries. It presents a first-ever, in-depth analysis of disaster impact on the subsectors of fisheries, aquaculture and forestry. It also reveals an agriculture-specific methodology for evaluating damage and loss from disasters, thereby improving understanding of the wider implications for the economy and livelihoods. Finally, the report also looks at all threats facing agriculture, including food chain crises and transboundary animal diseases – which are increasingly common and tend to have multipronged impacts on agriculture – as well as conflict and protracted crises, which are also on the rise. The latter is accomplished through an analysis of the impact on the agricultural system and rural livelihoods in the Syrian Arab Republic.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE (ICSU)

Mulugeta G, Durrheim R, Konare A, *et al.* **Africa Science Plan. Natural and human-induced hazards and disasters.** Pretoria (South Africa): ICSU Regional Office for Africa. 2017; 56 p. This *Africa Science Plan* summarizes the current status of health and human well-being in Africa and describes the major challenges faced by the continent. The plan also proposes key research themes to address the challenges. If successfully implemented, the proposed research will provide valuable scientific evidence and skills that would be useful in informing policy- and decision-making for the well-being of African people. Effective implementation will require substantial mobilization of human and financial resources, and research facilities for training, research and community education (outreach), as well as extensive regional and international collaboration, partnerships, and networking. ICSU ROA will promote, facilitate and coordinate the implementation of this plan and its concomitant projects dealing with health and human well-being in Africa.

Advisory Note: Responsibilities for preventing, avoiding, and mitigating harm to researchers undertaking fieldwork in risky settings. Paris: International Council for Science (ICSU). September 2017

Researchers across many disciplines of science engage in fieldwork, sometimes in unfamiliar, remote, or risky settings, on sensitive topics, or in unstable social or political environments. This Advisory Note seeks to increase awareness that heightened risk is a feature of much field research, and that risk awareness, assessment and mitigation of risks in the field need to be strategic and integral parts of research design and implementation, at both institutional and individual levels. This supports freedom and responsibility in the conduct of research. Fieldwork needs particular attention because researchers are less likely to be working within their familiar networks and support structures, often will have reduced control over the research setting, and may be unaware of local political issues and other potential risks not directly related to their research. Undertaking fieldwork in unfamiliar and risky locations offers potential for both physical and psychological harm. This Advisory Note provides basic awareness of the critical issues that need to be considered, and complements legal obligations, other existing guidance and accepted best practice. It provides guidance to institutions (e.g., academies, funding agencies, universities, research institutions), research supervisors and researchers, on their responsibilities and actions. Institutions have a responsibility to raise issues of risk with their research community, to develop risk-avoidance strategies, to implement safety protocols, to train research teams and researchers in these protocols prior to undertaking fieldwork, to take a directive role in oversight of the settings in which their researchers work, and to ensure a duty of care to student researchers.

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)

Global Ocean Science Report. The current status of ocean science around the world. Paris: UNESCO Publishing. 2017; 278 p. € 45,00 ISBN 978 92 310 0226 7 The *Global Ocean Science Report* (GOSR) assesses for the first time the status and trends in ocean science capacity around the world. The report offers a global record of how, where, and by whom ocean science is conducted: generating knowledge, helping to protect ocean health, and empowering society to support sustainable ocean management in the framework of the United Nations 2030 Agenda. The GOSR identifies and quantifies the key elements of ocean science at the national, regional and global scales, including workforce, infrastructure and publications. It is the first collective attempt to systematically highlight opportunities as well as capacity gaps to advance international collaboration in ocean science and technology. This report is a resource for policy-makers, academics and other stakeholders seeking to harness the potential of ocean science to address global challenges.

United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP). **The United Nations World Water Development Report 2017. Wastewater: the untapped resource.** Paris: UNESCO. 2017; 196 p. € 45.00 ISBN 978 92 310 0201 4 The United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) is hosted and led by UNESCO. The annual World Water Development Reports focus on strategic water issues. UN-Water Members and Partners, all experts in their respective fields, contribute the latest findings on a specific theme. The 2017 edition focuses on "Wastewater" and seeks to inform decision-makers, inside and outside the water community, about the importance of managing wastewater as an undervalued and sustainable source of water, energy, nutrients and other recoverable by-products, rather than something to be disposed of or a nuisance to be ignored. In a world where demands for freshwater are continuously growing, and where limited water resources are increasingly stressed by over-abstraction, pollution and climate change, neglecting the opportunities arising from improved wastewater management is nothing less than unthinkable.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

Guidelines on hepatitis B and C testing. Geneva: World Health Organization. 2017; 204 p. ISBN 978 92 415 4998 1 Testing and diagnosis of hepatitis B (HBV) and C (HCV) infection is the gateway for access to both prevention and treatment services, and is a crucial component of an effective response to the hepatitis epidemic. Early identification of persons with chronic HBV or HCV infection enables them to receive the necessary

care and treatment to prevent or delay progression of liver disease. Testing also provides an opportunity to link people to interventions to reduce transmission, through counselling on risk behaviours and provision of prevention commodities (such as sterile needles and syringes) and hepatitis B vaccination. These are the first WHO guidelines on testing for chronic HBV and HCV infection and complement published guidance by WHO on the prevention, care and treatment of chronic hepatitis C and hepatitis B infection. These guidelines outline the public health approach to strengthening and expanding current testing practices for HBV and HCV, and are intended for use across age groups and populations.

Integrating neglected tropical diseases in global health and development. Fourth WHO report on neglected tropical diseases. Geneva: World Health Organization. 2017; vi, 267 p. ISBN 978 92 415 6544 8 WHO reference no. WHO/HTM/NTD/2017.01 It evaluates the changing global public health landscape, assesses progress towards the 2020 targets, and considers the possible core elements of a strategic vision to integrating neglected tropical diseases into the 2030 Agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals. Advances have been made through expanded interventions delivered through five public health approaches: innovative and intensified disease management; preventive chemotherapy; vector ecology and management; veterinary public health services; and the provision of safe water, sanitation and hygiene. In 2015 alone nearly one billion people were treated for at least one disease and significant gains were achieved in relieving the symptoms and consequences of diseases for which effective tools are scarce; important reductions were achieved in the number of new cases of sleeping sickness, of visceral leishmaniasis in South-East Asia and also of Buruli ulcer.

State of inequality: childhood immunization. Geneva: World Health Organization. 2017; 78 p. Sw.fr.25.00/ US \$ 30.00 ISBN 978 92 415 1173 5 Order no. 11500932 The report addresses two overarching questions: What inequalities in childhood immunization coverage exist in low- and middle-income countries? And how have childhood immunization inequalities changed over the last 10 years? In answering these questions, this report draws on data about five childhood immunization indicators, disaggregated by four dimensions of inequality, and covering 69 countries. The findings of this report indicate that there is less inequality now than 10 years ago. Global improvements have been realized with variable patterns of change across countries and by indicator and dimension of inequality. The current situation in many countries shows that further improvement is needed to lessen inequalities; in particular, inequalities related to household economic status and mother's education were the most prominent. This report is accompanied by electronic interactive visuals, which facilitates thorough and customizable exploration of the data.